

THE FUN DAY TIMES



Skate school
Win fab skates,
expert tuition
and a skating fan's
dream day out
Page 3

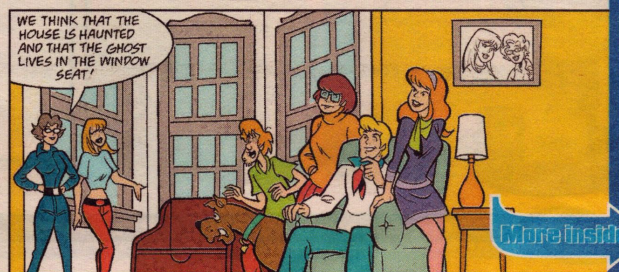
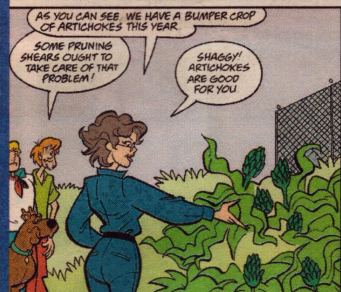
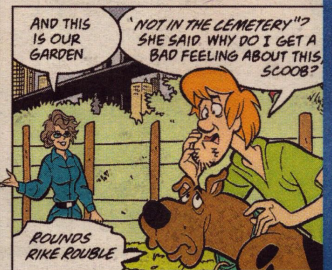
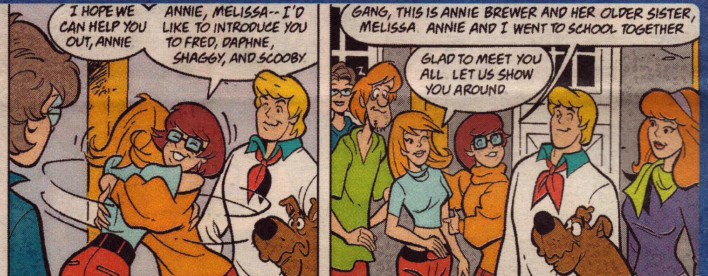
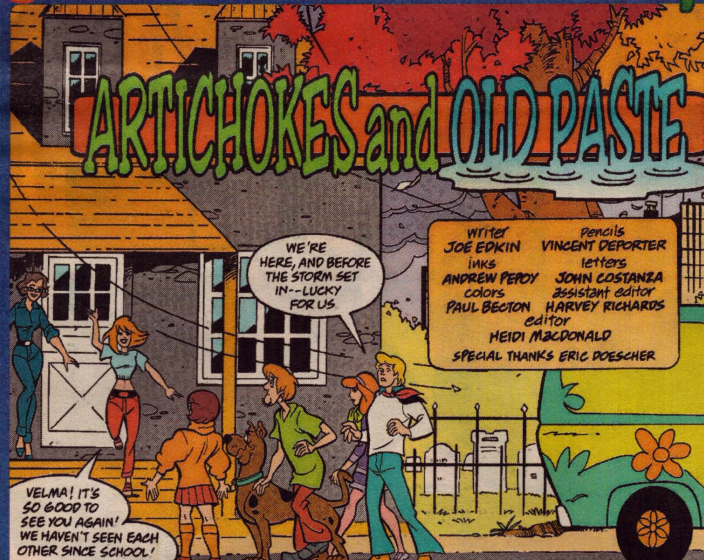


See through
We're off to The
World Of Glass to
discover some of
its amazing secrets
Page 6

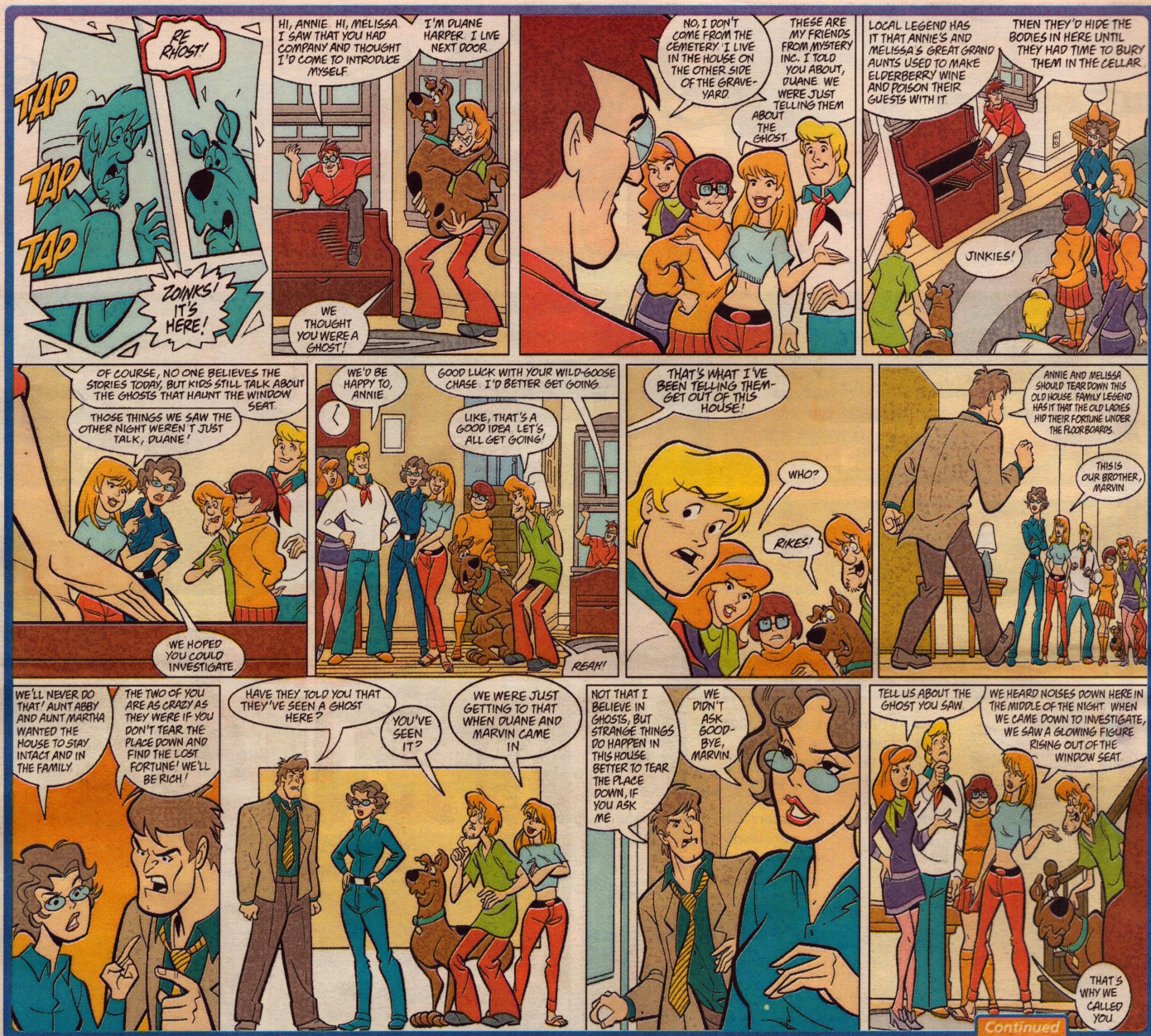


Britney's here
Funday chats to
Britney Spears as
she launches her
new album in Paris
Page 9

SCOOBY-DOO! in ARTICHOKES AND OLD PASTE



More inside



SCOOBY-DOO AND ALL RELATED CHARACTERS AND ELEMENTS ARE TRADEMARKS OF HANNA BARBERA © 2000

f-mail

Send your letters, cartoons, jokes and drawings to: The Sunday Times, PO Box 5073, Leighton Buzzard LU7 7GX Send your e-mail to: funday.times@sunday-times.co.uk

EAT MY SHORTS!

Don't miss out on these awesome Simpsons gadgets from Wesco - they're a must for all fans of Springfield's best-loved family. And we have a Bart-tastic prize for all f-mail winners. The star f-mail will win a Bart blackboard alarm clock, a Homer talking alarm clock, a Homer head radio and a Bart watch! Each runner-up gets a Bart blackboard alarm clock. Doh!



Tara Proud, 13, Carmarthen

Why did the tap dancer have to retire?



He kept falling into the sink!

Dear f-mail,

I'm writing about young female singers like Britney Spears, Christina Aguilera, Mandy Moore (right) and Jessica Simpson. Everyone complains that they all sound the same but what do people expect? They are all female and quite close in age, so you have to expect that there will be similarities between them. That isn't to say that they all have the same voice. I think all of them sing well and are really talented and, anyway, if they did all sound the same, it wouldn't really matter because they each have an individual style of song. Emma Wallace, via e-mail



PICTURE: ANDREW SOUTHAM

FUN Competitions!

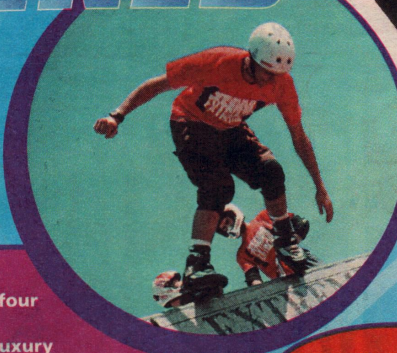
COMPETITION ADDRESS Send answers to all competitions to us at: **The Funday Times, PO Box 5073, Leighton Buzzard LU7 7GX** Competition deadline: May 24
You can e-mail your competition answers to: funday.competitions@sunday-times.co.uk

GET IN-LINED

Wheels In Motion 2000 is the biggest free celebration of inline skating in the UK, and two Funday winners can be there on Sunday, June 11. The skating spectacular, held on Weymouth seafront, will include a Team Extreme half-pipe show, roller hockey and speed skating as well as fun skating for everyone.



Two winners and their families (maximum of four per family) will spend Saturday night at the luxury Moonfleet Manor Hotel in Weymouth before being driven the next day to the seafront for the big event ... in a limousine!



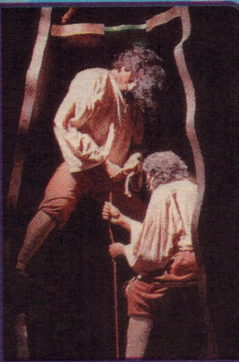
WIN!

Plus, five runners-up will each receive a pair of inline skates.



Once at Wheels In Motion 2000, the two winners and their families will all receive inline skates and full safety gear, courtesy of K2 and Inliners, before having some expert tuition by qualified instructors.

And if all that inline action isn't enough, they'll also enjoy a trip to the Deep Sea Adventure and have lunch at Sharky's on the harbourside.



The Deep Sea Adventure



To enter, tell us which county Weymouth is in.

Mark your entry **MOTION** and send it, with your name, age and address, to the competition address above.

For more details on Wheels In Motion 2000, log on to www.great-to-skate.co.uk

Normal TNL competition rules apply to all Funday Times competitions

Dear f-mail,
I hope you like my picture of Beryl The Peril. It took me ages to draw and colour. From your number one fan.
Ffion Wynn Williams, Pwllheli



Dear f-mail,
I'd just like to say that I think Pokémon is a complete waste of time and money, with kids all around the world spending their money on the overpriced cards and toys. One of the results of this crazy craze is bullying, and some schools have even decided to ban the trading cards! Some kids are obsessed and have more than 100 trading cards but still think they need more. The whole thing has got way out of hand.
Shoshana Lewis, Pinner



How do you start a pudding race?
Sago!

Chloe Barrell, 11,
Ledgemoor

Patient: Doctor, doctor, I've swallowed a camera.

Doctor: Let's hope nothing serious develops!

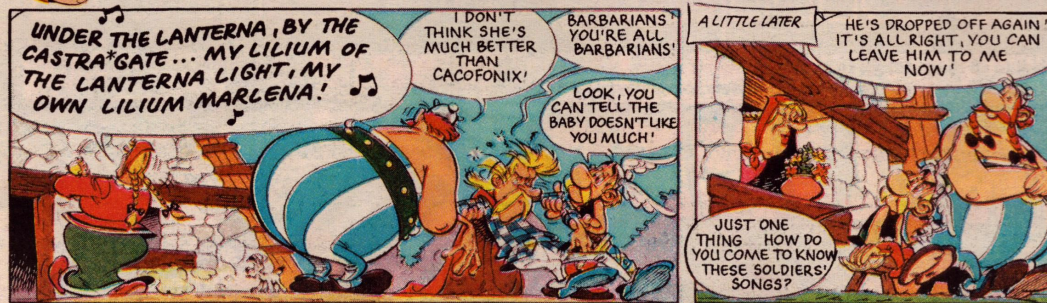
Lewis and Charlie Evans,
via e-mail

Is Pokémon a waste of money or is it the coolest thing on the planet? Tell us what you think

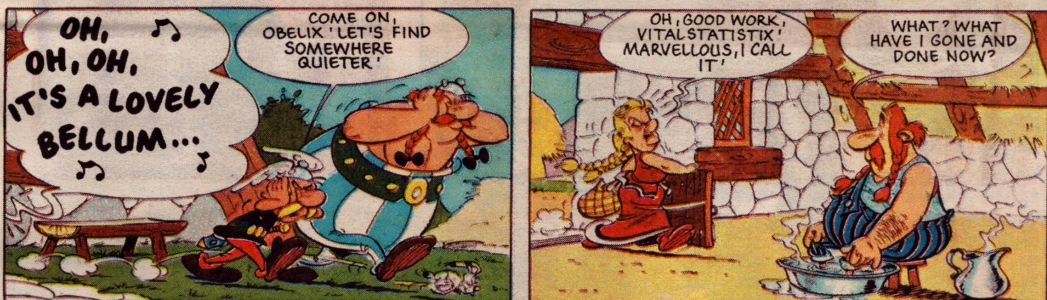


Asterix and Son

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*LATIN BARRACKS



Continued next week!

DAGSY DOG



Woof, woof! Got any pet problems? Then get in touch with me at the address below!

I know rabbits tip over their food bowls after they've eaten but my rabbit tips his bowl over before he's eaten. I'm scared he's not getting enough food.

Anna Hodgart, Glasgow

Your rabbit might be using his bowl as a toy. Try giving him something to play with – yogurt pots work well, or you can buy special rabbit toys. For information contact The Rabbit Charity, PO Box 23698, London N8 0WS, Call 020 8888 0001, or visit www.bunny.org.uk.



Feeding a puppy is a tiresome task. So, here's our puppy feeding guide! Always use good quality food – most brands now have specially formulated puppy food. A puppy needs to be fed little and often. Puppies eight to 12 weeks old need four meals a day, three to six months need three meals, and six to nine months should be fed twice daily. Remove any uneaten food after 15 minutes. Clean water should always be available.



Advice by Blue Cross vet Mark Bosseley

If you have a question for me or you want to send in a cool fact, write to: The Sunday Times, Dagsy Dog, PO Box 495, London E98 1ST. You can now e-mail your pet problems to dagsy.dog@sunday-times.co.uk

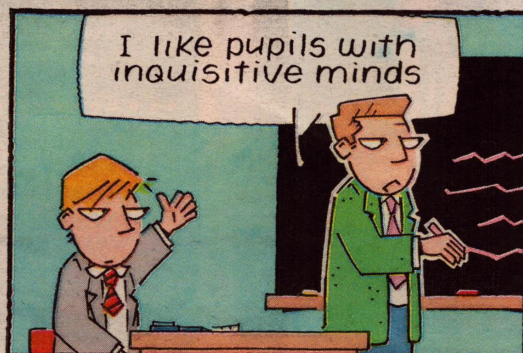


The Blue Cross, one of Britain's oldest animal welfare charities, has four animal hospitals, 11 adoption centres, and two equine centres. Last year the charity found homes for more than 9,000 animals and treated around 60,000 pets at its hospitals.

ILLUSTRATIONS: PAUL COWKILL

PICTURE: JAMES MARCHINGTON/ARISA LONDON

Jarvis



Jarvis, what is your question?



4

Look out for our exciting new Pokémon column – coming soon!

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Pokémon palaver

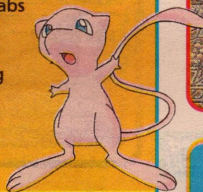
The country has gone Pokémon mad – and eight-year-old Harvey Flexman is a huge fan of the craze. In fact, Harvey is so hooked on his Pokémon card collection that when he heard a local radio station was swapping the holographic Vaporeon card he wanted, he got on the phone and offered to swap it for his toys, his pocket money,

and even his 10-month-old sister! Luckily the presenter of Ocean FM in Portsmouth refused to accept little Mollie as a swap, but he did give Harvey the cool Vaporeon card.



We've got Mew!

As any Pokémon fan knows, Mew is the powerful and mysterious 151st pocket monster, and he has only just been unleashed in Japan. But British fans will be able to join in Mew-mania when the Pokémon take over Bluewater shopping centre in Kent on Saturday, May 27. The shopping centre will be re-named Mew-water for the occasion, and anyone with a Game Boy will be able to download the prized Pokémon for themselves (from 10am to 1pm). If you can't make it to Mew-water, don't worry because The Funday Times has a special Game Boy up for grabs which already has Mew downloaded onto it! We're giving it away this week, together with Pokémon Red and Blue cartridges.



To enter, just name Ash's two human friends who take part in his adventure in Pokémon The First Movie. Mark your answer Mew and send it with your name, age and address, to the competition address on page 3.



THE FUNDAY TIMES

news

Back-to-back thrills

If you like white-knuckle rides, then check out the latest attraction at Disneyland Paris. If you have visited the park before, you'll know that this is the popular Indiana Jones ride, but get ready for a surprise – the rollercoaster is operating backwards! The attraction was closed throughout the winter for modification, and now brave riders can experience the rattling mine train in reverse, including its 360-degree loop. Hold on to your hats, it's a bumpy ride!



Something smelly

Get ready for a new breed of interactive entertainment – the Cartoon Network is about to bring you scratch and sniff TV! It's called Smelly Telly and the launch date is May 29. Every day during half term, viewers will be able to scratch a special Smelly Telly card and sniff the pungent programmes on TV. You can pick up a card at any Warner Bros Studio Store, and numbers appearing on screen will tell you when to scratch each panel. If you guess what all the smells are, you can even challenge the Odour Decoder on the Cartoon Network website: www.cartoonnetwork.co.uk.

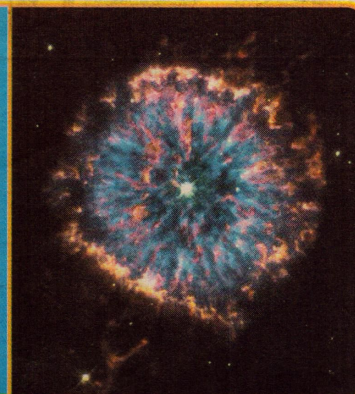
Piece of history

This giant jigsaw is the handiwork of two brothers, John and Robert Woodward, and it took them nearly 10 years to complete! The jigsaw is actually a giant mosaic the brothers created after catching a glimpse of the Great Orpheus Pavement near Stroud in Gloucestershire. The original pavement, which would have formed the centrepiece of a Roman palace, was discovered in a disused graveyard, but archeologists decided to cover it up again in order to protect it. John and Robert were so taken with the mosaic that they took photographs of the remains before they were buried again and then made their own exact copy, using 1.6 million separate pieces of clay!



Cosmic explosion!

It might look like a giant dandelion, but this dramatic picture shows a giant gas explosion in space, marking the end of a solar system much like our own. Known as planetary nebula NGC 6751, in the constellation Aquila, the massive gas cloud was thrown out from the hot star that you can see in the middle. The explosion occurred about 6,500 years ago – but it was so far away that it has taken until now for the light to reach the Hubble space telescope! The surface temperature of the star is about 140,000°C and the gas cloud, which was 600-times wider than our own solar system in this picture, is expanding at 40km per second! But don't worry about the same thing happening to our solar system – scientists say it won't for at least six billion years! Check out the Hubble website at <http://hubble.stsci.edu>

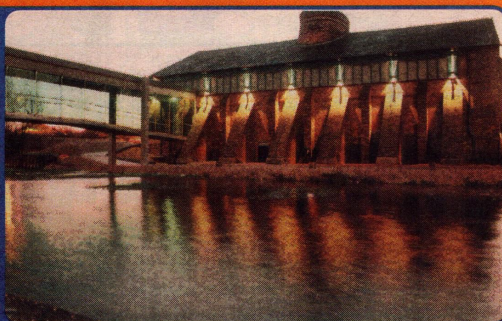


Enter our Pokémon competition today and you could win Mew!

Smashing

HOME OF GLASS

The World of Glass wasn't built in St Helens by accident – St Helens was the home of English glass-making during the Industrial Revolution. The world-famous Pilkington glass originated in the town in 1826. Visitors to The World of Glass enter via a stunning, 18m-tall glasshouse, which was once a common site in Lancashire. Glasshouses were used to cool molten glass when it came out of a furnace.



Glass was first made about 5,000 years ago in the Middle East. It is created from a mixture of sand, soda ash and limestone that's heated to a very high temperature.



This bizarre-looking cone house (left) dates back to 1887. Inside the cone house are the oldest remains in Europe of a glass-making furnace, used to manufacture flat glass. Visitors can even explore the 700m-long maze of tunnels underneath the furnace which were originally used to maintain the fiery inferno and to supply the gas which fuelled it!



GLASS MAGIC

The World of Glass is not just about history. It also reveals the magic and mystery of glass. There's a great area where visitors can play with kaleidoscopes, periscopes and wacky mirrors that alter reflection sizes!



BLOWING ART

In the Nature of Glass area, visitors can watch glass-blowers demonstrate their skilful art. To make glass objects by hand, molten glass is heated to more than 1,100C, on the end of a hollow blowing iron – then a small bubble is blown into the glass and the process has begun. The glass is then cooled by rolling it on an iron slab and it is shaped with tools. The glass is reheated several times during shaping.



Chemicals are used to make glass colourful. Selenium sulphide makes it red while copper oxide gives it a distinctive blue look.



MEET THE MAKER

Watch out for this weird-looking contraption. It's called Owens Bottle Making Machine and it was built in 1904. Known as The Octopus, the machine moulds bottles using compressed air and it's very quiet.

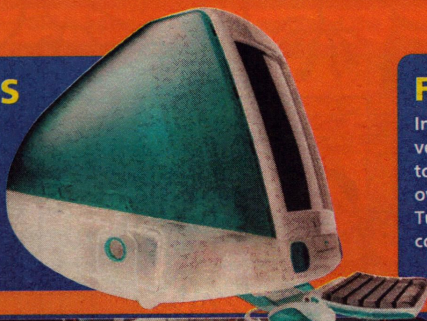


stuff!

The World of Glass, in St Helens, is a new exhibition dedicated to one of the oldest and most valuable artificial materials. Paul Wray visits the museum to explore the facts and fun behind this amazing commodity.

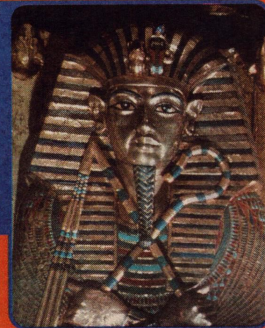
CYBER GLASS

Cyberspace needs glass as well. It is used in everything from your computer screen to the fibre-optic network that is used to operate the world wide web.



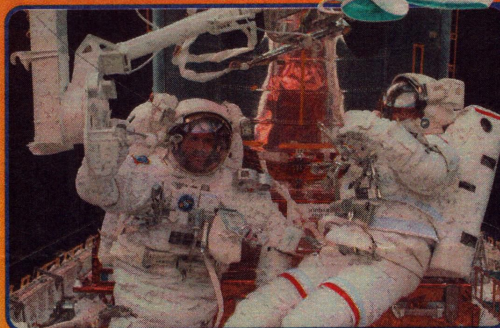
FAKE FINDS

In ancient Egypt, glass was very important. You needed to be as rich as a pharaoh to own it and the tomb of Tutankhamen contained coloured glass to imitate semi-precious stones!



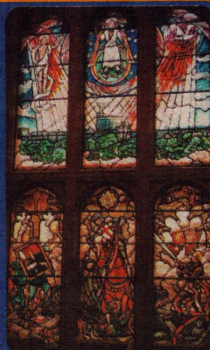
IN SPACE

Glass keeps astronauts warm. Spacesuits are made from glass microfibres that are less than one thousandth of the diameter of a human hair. Wow!



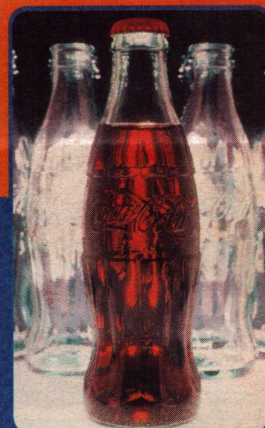
HOLY SCENES

Stained-glass windows are made from hundreds of pieces of coloured glass that are held together by strips of lead. Many stained-glass windows, dating back to medieval times, are used to decorate cathedrals, churches and castles and often portray religious stories. This stained glass window is actually new! It is in the Royal Chapel at Windsor Castle and was made after a fire destroyed the chapel's original stained-glass window in 1992.



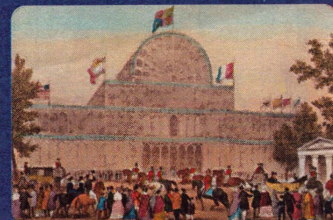
BOTTLE IT

One of the most common uses for glass is storing food and drink. Glass is ideal because it is rustproof, waterproof, hygienic and it can be recycled over and over again. Coca-Cola would be lost without glass. The company sells 2,000,000,000 glass bottles to thirsty customers every year.



VICTORIAN ERA

One of the most extraordinary buildings ever to be constructed was the Crystal Palace. It was made entirely of glass and iron and was built in Hyde Park, in London, to house the Great Exhibition of 1851. It was later moved to south London, but unfortunately it burnt down in 1936.



WHAT IS IT?

Can you guess what this glass bottle was used for? For storing perfume, perhaps? No, this bottle was in fact a fire extinguisher! The glass, filled with carbon tetrachloride, was thrown into a fire where it would shatter and the chemicals would quench the flames! It dates back to 1885 and was made in Chicago, America. You can find this bottle in the Glass Roots exhibition at The World of Glass!



FIRED UP

A volcano is nature's very own glass factory. The intense heat from a volcano fuses masses of silica together to form a razor-sharp, black-brown natural glass called obsidian.

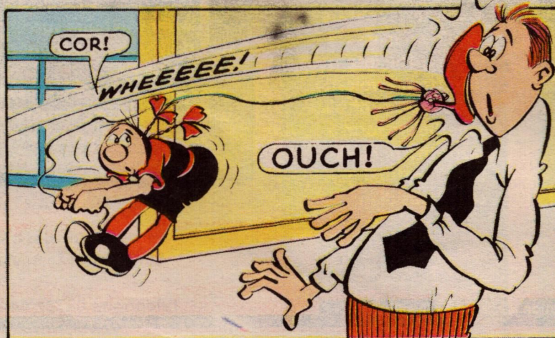
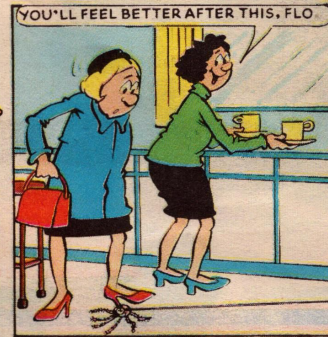
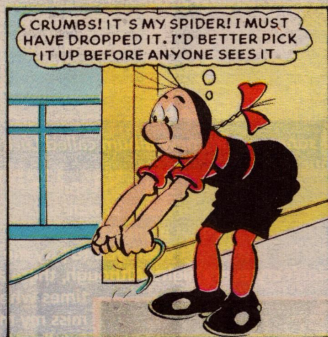
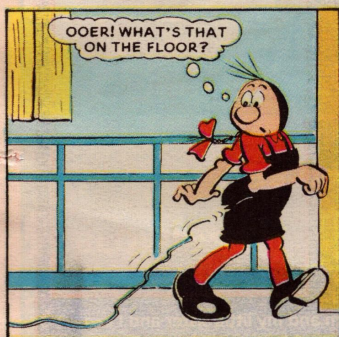
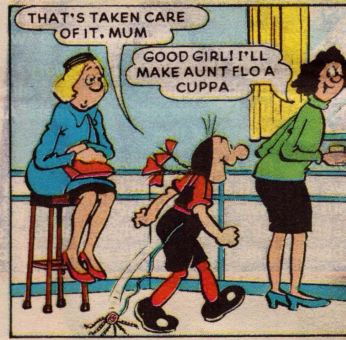
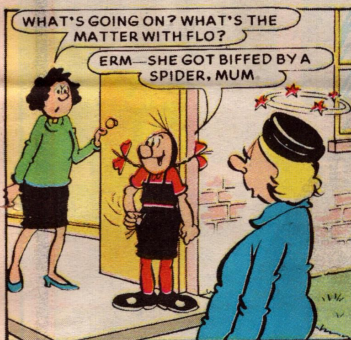
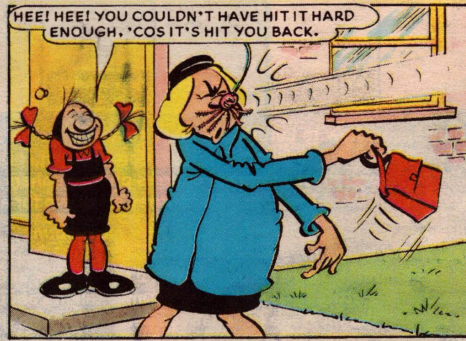
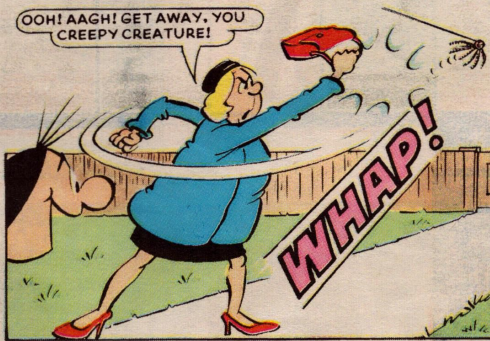
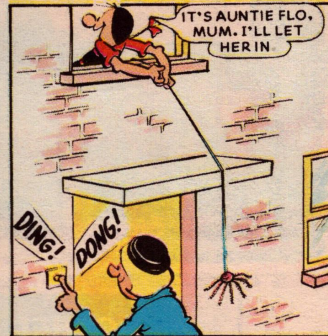
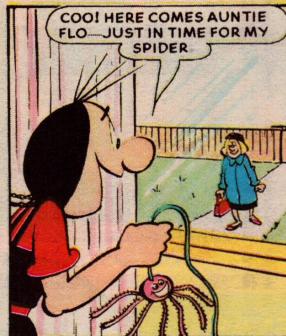


The World of Glass, Chalon Way East, St Helens, Merseyside WA10 1BX.
Open 10am-5pm every day.
Telephone 08707 444 777 or log on to www.worldofglass.com

THE FUNDAY TIMES

BERYL the PERIL

BERYL THE PERIL DANDY
APPEARS EVERY WEEK IN THE



© D.C. THOMSON & CO., LTD., 2000

Bonjour Britney!

Britney Spears launched her new album, *Oops!...I Did It Again*, in Paris last week and The Funday Times was there to meet her. Dave Coombs reports.



Britney Spears flew to Europe last week to announce her first-ever world tour and to launch her new album, *Oops!...I Did It Again*. After posing for hundreds of press photographers in front of the famous Eiffel Tower in Paris, Britney sat down for a chat.

Hi Britney, what we can expect from your new album, *Oops!...I Did It Again*?

Well, it's definitely more mature than the first album, and it has so much more attitude as well. This album is talking about being yourself and the message is "what you see is what you get". It's more me this album and it's very diverse. It has songs on it like *Satisfaction*, which is so hard and has so much attitude, and then songs like *Dear Diary*, which is so sweet.

Didn't you write the lyrics to *Dear Diary*?

Yes, I did. I think teenagers experience all the moods in that song, basically because we're teenagers. And I think it's cool that it captures all of that.

Is *Oops!...I Did It Again* a personal song?

I love singing that song, but lyrically I can't relate to it at all. It's about a girl who has all these guys falling for her and she's breaking their hearts. But when I fall for a guy, he usually ends up breaking my heart. But it's a fun song to sing.



Who created the amazing video for your current number one, *Oops!...I Did It Again*?

Actually, I thought up the whole concept. My stylist and I were on a long plane trip when we thought it up. It is kind of bizarre I guess, dancing on Mars, but nobody has ever done it before and I always like to incorporate my dancing if I can.

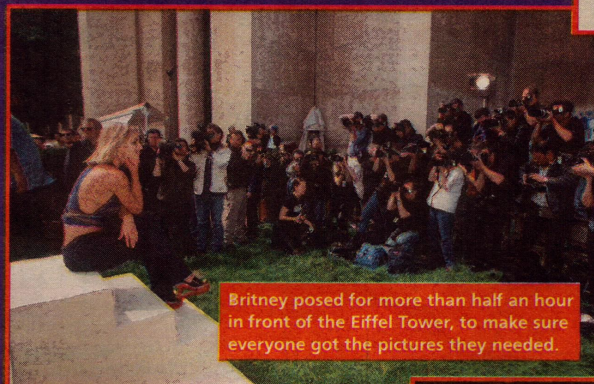
There's a sad song on your new album called *Lucky*. Is it about your life?

It's talking about a girl who's lonely, and sometimes when you're surrounded by so many people it can be really lonely. The song is about a girl who comes in at night and she cries, but I don't want you to pity me or anything – I don't cry every night. Although, there are

times when I miss my mum and my little sister and I can totally relate to this song.

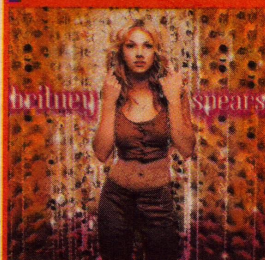
After the huge success of your first album, do you worry about this one not doing quite as well?

I can't think like that, and I don't think you ever expect anything to happen. I just hope and pray it does well. I put my heart and soul into this album and hopefully people will see that.

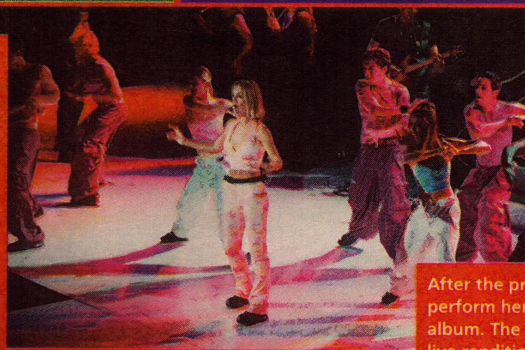


Britney posed for more than half an hour in front of the Eiffel Tower, to make sure everyone got the pictures they needed.

Britney's new album, *Oops!...I Did It Again*, is released in the UK tomorrow. British fans can see Britney live this autumn – tickets are on sale now for shows on October 7 and 8 at the Birmingham NEC, October 10, 11 and 12 at Wembley Arena and October 13 and 14 at Manchester MEN Arena.



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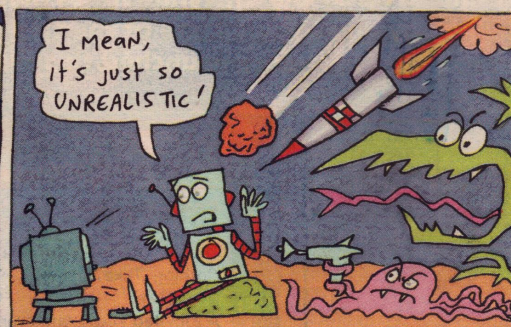
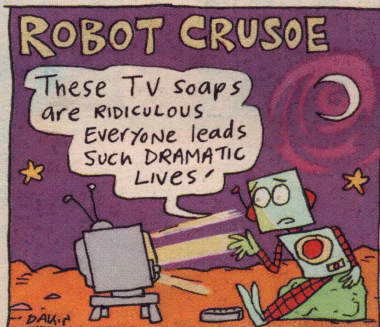


Travel and accommodation provided by Jive Records.

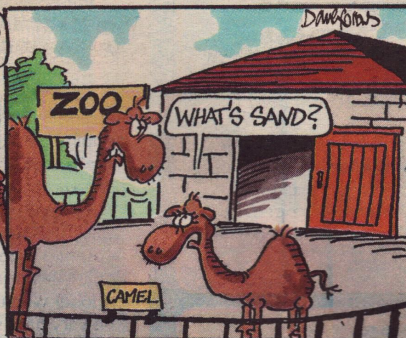
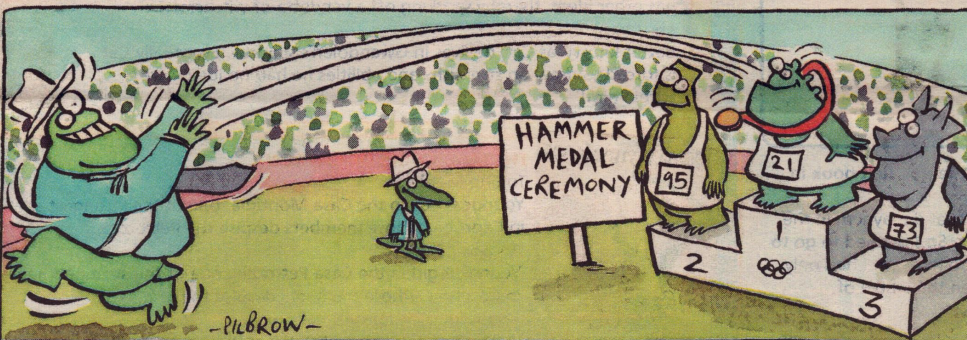
After the press conference, Britney took to the stage to perform her hit singles, and two tracks from her new album. The highlight of the show was Britney's stunning live rendition of *Oops!...I Did It Again*.



BEAN

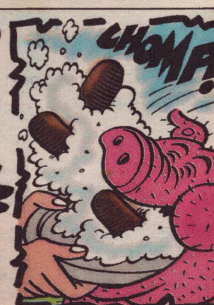


SPORTS



ADVANCE FEATURES

DENNIS and GNASHER



+++ follow Dennis & Gnasher in **BEANO** every week +++

NEXT WEEK in FUNDAY



We go behind the scenes with Tom Lucas and the cast of the hit West End musical **Cats**

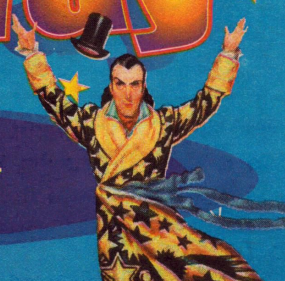
Meet cool new girlband **Buffalo G** as they limber up for an acrobatic performance for their fans in London

Discover Funday's verdict of Stephen Gately's debut solo single

Worlds away



The magical worlds of Chrestomanci were first conjured up by Diana Wynne Jones more than 20 years ago. Funday gives you a taste of the spell-binding tales that are relaunched this month



Story teller

Diana Wynne Jones talks to Funday

When did you first decide to be a writer?

When I was eight. I wasn't inspired by anything. I just knew in the middle of one afternoon that I was going to be a writer. I don't know why because, in fact, I was dyslexic and I still am. I just knew it was true in some weird way.



When did you write *Charmed Life*, the first book in the series?

It was a half term. There was riot and mayhem in the house and it was raining outside. So I decided to go to bed as my children were being so horrible. I had only been in bed for 10 minutes when the whole of *Charmed Life* came into my head.

Do you think *Harry Potter* is similar to your Chrestomanci books?

Yes, I suppose it is. It's quite nice for me. The one thing I like to do is read books like that and not many people do them, except me!

If you could create your own spell, what would you create and who would you cast it upon?

I wouldn't cast it on a person but I would like a spell that takes me to other worlds. It would just open up like a curtain in the middle of the room and I could walk through!

FUNDAY RATES ★★★★★

Funday reader Evie Burrows-Taylor, 13, from Newmarket, gives her verdict on *Charmed Life*.

"It is difficult to describe the story very well without spoiling it for anyone who wants to read it. This is because you don't find out a lot of things until the very end. The language is slightly old-fashioned but the further you read the more exciting it gets. The ending is very exciting!"



Here's Funday's guide to who's who in the Chrestomanci series

CHARMED LIFE

Chrestomanci

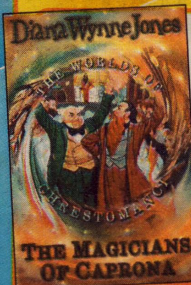
The all-powerful enchanter with a fondness for elegant and expensive clothing. Takes Gwendolen and Eric Chant into his stewardship.

Gwendolen Chant

A talented witch who everyone predicts will be famous. But Chrestomanci has other ideas, thereby sparking off a vendetta of witchcraft!

Eric Chant

Better known as Cat, he lives in Gwendolen's shadow. Eventually Cat is forced to draw on strengths and abilities he had no idea were within him!



THE MAGICIANS OF CAPRONA

Tonino Montana

Youngest boy in the Casa Montana, one of the strongest spell-houses in Caprona, whose members despise the Petrocchis.

Angelica Petrocchi

Youngest girl in the Casa Petrocchi, one of the strongest spell-houses in Caprona, whose members despise the Montanas.

The Angel of Caprona

A magical song, as well as the statue that guards Caprona. It is said the Angel brought the song in a scroll from heaven and its power banished the White Devil that had brought war to the city.

WITCH WEEK

Nan Pilgrim

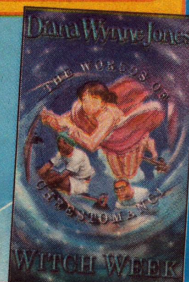
Pupil in 2Y at Larwood House, a class that contains many witch-orphans. A bit of a misfit, she lives in fear that her classmates will discover that she is indeed descended from a famous witch!

Nirupam Singh

Tall, intelligent and respected, Nirupam keeps himself to himself, but observes others closely for signs of witchcraft and secret spell-making.

Charles Morgan

A loner who usually manages to ward off unwelcome intrusions with his very hard stare – magnified by the large spectacles he wears.



THE LIVES OF CHRISTOPHER CHANT

Christopher Chant

Destined to be the next Chrestomanci, Christopher would rather play cricket and wander around his secret dream worlds. But destiny is difficult to avoid!

Uncle Ralph Argent

Foxy, tweedy and moustached, Christopher idolises his uncle – especially when he gives him a silver sixpence and sends him chocolates.

Tacroy

Spirit-traveller and friend to Christopher, though very secretive about his real life and background. They share a love of cricket.

THE FUNDAY TIMES sport

Benito Carbone

The players of Aston Villa and Chelsea have a nervous week ahead of them as they prepare for Saturday's FA Cup final at Wembley. Aston Villa will be hoping their striker Benito Carbone can show the flair and skill that makes him one of the Premiership's most exciting players. The Italian is known to lose his temper at times but if the Villans need someone to provide a bit of inspiration during a tense final, Benito's the man.

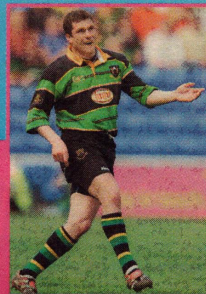
- Benito is a skilful player who is comfortable as a striker or as an attacking midfielder
- He joined Aston Villa in October 1999 after playing at Sheffield Wednesday for three years
- Benito is 28 years old and comes from the Italian town of Bagnara
- He made his debut in Italy's legendary Serie A with the Torino club at the age of just 17
- During Aston Villa's FA Cup quarterfinal against Everton, Benito showed both sides of his character – scoring a brilliant goal and then getting sent off!



sport news

Nerves of steel

Substitute Paul Grayson kicked Northampton into their first European rugby final as he fired home a late, late penalty against Llanelli. Paul had been dropped to Northampton's bench for the game, but showed no nerves with the vital kick – taken four minutes into injury time! Saints now play Irish champions Munster in the final at Twickenham in a week's time.



PICTURES: ALLSPORT PA

Back on form

Manchester City are back in the Premier League, but we're still not sure who will replace them in Division One. Both Wimbledon and Bradford are desperately trying to avoid relegation from the top flight and both play their last matches today – Wimbledon away to Southampton, Bradford travelling to Liverpool. It should be a thriller.

Mika's winner

David Coulthard put on a brave performance at the Spanish Grand Prix, but could not stop team-mate Mika Hakkinen from winning. David, who survived a plane crash just five days before the Barcelona race, still picked up six world championship points. Jenson Button was not so lucky – his Williams car broke down a couple of laps before the end.

Park life

Nike Park is the football extravaganza being held at the home of soccer, Wembley Stadium, from June 3 to 11. The football-packed kids' event will have interactive zones where you can improve your ball skills, and you'll be able to step into the boots of a professional by attending a tactical team talk and then walking down the players' tunnel to face the sound of 70,000 cheering fans! Also, watch out for a few famous footballing faces that will be popping along to offer their top tips. We have 10 sets of six tickets (five children, one adult) for Saturday, June 3, at Wembley. To enter, tell us which football club plays at Ibrox. Mark your entry NIKE and send it, with your name, age and address, to the competition address on page 3.



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